

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS23201

Currently, there is disparity between how members of two important councils under the purview of the Idaho Department of Commerce are compensated. The Idaho Travel Council members receive compensation of \$50.00 for each day spent in the actual performance of duties, whereas the Economic Advisory Council (EAC) members serve without compensation. With the enhanced responsibilities granted to EAC during the 2014 legislative session to review applications for the Idaho Tax Reimbursement Incentive, this change is requested to provide EAC members with compensation of \$50.00 per day to ensure there is parity in compensation for members of these two councils. The Idaho Travel Council is also organized by seven (7) planning regions, whereas the Economic Advisory Council has operated under six (6) planning regions. This legislation would move EAC to a seven region model to create alignment between these two councils.

FISCAL NOTE

This legislation will result in an additional financial burden to the Idaho Department of Commerce to reimburse each of the eight (8) members of EAC at a rate of \$50.00 for each day spent in actual performance of duties. EAC is required to meet at least quarterly, but is expected to meet a minimum of eight (8) times per year to review applications for the Tax Reimbursement Incentive. The department is not requesting any additional funds to support this change and will absorb this increase within its existing appropriation.

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